GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:260
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE
Sharma Shri Madan Lal;Vallabhbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agricultural growth rate for the last three years vis-a-vis the growth rates in the other core sectors in the country;

(b) the factors for slow growth of the agricultural sector, if any, during the above period; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the growth rate for the agricultural sector in the current year and in the next year?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 260 DUE FOR REPLY ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2007

(a): As per the data compiled by Central Statistical Organization (CSO), the sectoral percentage growth rates in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (1999-2000) prices in Agriculture & allied sectors, Mining, manufacturing, electricity, construction and Services during the last three years are given below:

Year	Agriculture & Allied Sector (%)	Mining, manufacturing, electricity, construction (%)	Services (%)
2004-05	0.0	9.8	9.6
2005-06	6.0	9.6	9.8
2006-07	2.7	10.9	11.0

(b): The factors for slow growth in the agriculture sector are mainly attributed to lack of adequate public sector investment in agriculture and periodic failures/weak monsoon in some years of the tenth Plan. However, the average growth rate realized during the last two years has been more than 4 per cent.

(c): The National Development Council (NDC) in its 53rd meeting held on 29th May, 2007 reaffirmed its commitment to achieve 4 per cent annual growth in the agricultural sector during the Eleventh Plan and resolved that agricultural development strategies must be reoriented to meet the needs of farmers and urged the Central and State Governments to evolve a strategy to rejuvenate agriculture. Towards improving the growth in the agriculture sector, recently, the Government has done the following:

Launched the National Food Security Mission with an outlay of Rs.4,882 crore for the Eleventh Plan period. It aims to produce additional 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

Launched the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), with an outlay of Rs.25,000 crore which aims at achieving 4% annual growth in the agriculture sector during the Eleventh Plan period, through incentivising the States to invest more in the sector.

Established National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) to assist and support in planning for rainfed areas.

Provided additional financial resources for irrigation.

Strategic focus on the national agriculture research effort.